

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DEFENDER COUNCIL

DATE: January 26, 2024

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84807035188?pwd=cU1PSXNQVlQVndkSkNCUG45Y1hWUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 0703 5188

Passcode: 923469

MEMBERS PRESENT: Crystal Glendon (in person)
Stanton Oshiro (virtual)
Gina Gormley (virtual)

ALSO PRESENT: Randall Nishiyama, Deputy Attorney General (virtual)
Jon Ikenaga, Public Defender (in person)
Hayley Cheng, Assistant Public Defender (in person)
Stella Kam, AG Attorney (in person)

Virtual meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chair Glendon.

Public Testimony:

At 10:04 a.m., Chair Glendon solicited public testimony. (in person and zoom)

No public testimony received.

Public testimony closed at 10:04 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

At 10:04 Chair Glendon requests approval for Regular session and Executive Session minutes for Thursday, November 2, 2023

Member Oshiro moved for approval of minutes held on November 2, 2024; Member Gormley second motion; motion approved unanimously at 10:09

Report by Public Defender Jon Ikenaga: 10:09 a.m.

1. Meeting with circuit court judges. Meetings with family, district, and circuit court judges on all islands as well.
2. Meetings with legislators- Rep. Tarnas, Rep. Takayama, Sen Gabbard, Rep. Ganaden.

Meetings with Sen. San Buenaventura and Sen. Rhoads
3. All staff meeting on O'ahu office for all divisions- district/family and family
Revised duties of felony supervisors, appearances in court.
4. Meetings with neighbor islands supervisors, individual island visits planned:
January 31- Maui
February- Kona, Hilo, Kaua'i.
5. Jail diversion graduation- Jerry Villanueva attended to represent OPD and gave speech.
6. Contacted prosecutors for their salary schedule to compare for future proposal to request raises/parity in pay for Deputy Public Defenders.
7. Slowly filling vacant positions. Trouble recruiting/hiring due to low salary.
8. Planning for in-person PD seminar this year.

Discussion regarding pending lawsuit: Public First Law Center v. Defender Council; Jon N. Ikenaga; and Agribusiness Development Corporation Board of Directors, First Circuit, 1CCV-24-0000050. 10:24 a.m.

Chair Glendon introduces Stella Kam (AG Attorney) who deals with Sunshine Law and Uniform Information Practices Act (UIPA) and Randal Nishiyama.

Chair Glendon explains open participation for input and comments for the applicants for Public Defender position was initiated in good faith.

Member Oshiro give their perspective that accepting comments was indeed in good faith.

Stella Kam shares the lawsuit involves only the sunshine law. Names and personal information of commenters (name, cell phone) were allowed to be masked. Comments were required to be disclosed.

Executive session: 10:46 a.m.

Chair Glendon entertained a motion to enter executive session.

Member Oshiro moved to enter executive session. Member Gormley seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion was unanimously approved. Council went into executive session at 10:35 a.m.

Open session reconvened:

Open session reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

Add statement made by Chair Glendon in open session on November 2, 2023, to meeting minutes for November 2, 2023.

Member Oshiro motion, member Gormley seconds. Unanimous. Minutes will be amended to the November 2, 2024 minutes.

Next meeting:

Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in person and via Zoom.

Member Gormley moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Oshiro seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

Chair Glendon moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Gormley seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.